



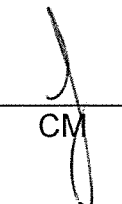
COUNCIL AGENDA: March 17, 2015

SUBJECT: GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR CALIFORNIA DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACT FUNDING, AND THE PROVISION OF WATER TO EAST PORTERVILLE RESIDENTS

SOURCE: Administration

COMMENT: As has been reported at prior City Council meetings, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-26-14, within which the Governor authorized funding through the California Disaster Assistance Act for the purpose of providing temporary water supplies to households without water for drinking and/or sanitation purposes, as well as directed State agencies to coordinate with counties and local agencies in providing long-term solutions for affected residents.

At its last meeting on March 3rd, the City Council again considered the Tulare Operational Area Task Requests (attached) received on January 20th from the County pursuant to Mutual Aid Agreement. The first Task Request was to continue to provide water delivery service by Mutual Aid Agreement for the next 120 days to the 300-gallon tanks that were previously placed by Porterville Area Coordinating Council. To date, a total of eighty (80) of these tanks are serviced by City staff and equipment on a weekly basis. The second Task Request was for the City to provide water for purchase to fill 1,500- and 2,500-gallon tanks for the next twelve (12) months in East Porterville, referred to as the County Household Tank Program. Both the City Council and staff have previously expressed significant concerns relative to the provision of water, especially for the County Household Tank Program, without the commitment of a new water source to compensate for the anticipated impact to the City's water system. The City Council approved an extension of the current water delivery service until Wednesday, March 11th, and deferred action on the County Household Tank Program, pending action by the County Board of Supervisors. At its meeting on March 10th, the Board approved the full-funding (\$1.6 million) of a new municipal well for the City, accepting 75% funding (\$1.2 million) from CalOES and authorizing the submission of a grant for USDA funding for the remaining 25% (\$400,000). The Board also approved that in the unlikely event the USDA grant is unsuccessful, the County would independently commit to fund the remaining \$400,000. An Agreement affirming the Board's action is being drafted by the County for the Council's consideration, and City staff is coordinating with County staff in providing necessary documentation for the USDA grant application.

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Item No. 28

Under the Task Request for the County Household Tank Program, County representatives have stated that a maximum of 2,000,000 gallons per month is requested to support the Program, though it may be up to nine (9) months before that volume of water would be necessary as the new tanks are located. A new well developed to City standards would be sufficient to support the requested volume of water, although the City may want to retain the ability to reduce the volume of water sales during the mid-summer months due to the City's water system experiencing its most taxing period, as well as the Governor's likely continued and/or enhanced mandated water conservation measures.

In a related matter, at its meeting on March 17, 2015, the State Water Resources Control Board will consider the proposed continuance of water conservation emergency resolution and regulations. The existing emergency regulations are set to expire on April 25th, and the Board will be considering an extension of the regulations until May 31, 2016.

On a final note, the most recent State Drought Briefing dated March 5, 2015, reports that the California snowpack is currently at 19% of normal to date, and 17% of the April 1 average. Additionally, major state reservoir levels remain at approximately half of average to date, though Northern California reservoirs account for the most benefit. Locally, Success Lake is currently at 28% of normal storage to date (slightly behind last year), and 9% of total storage capacity.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council consider:

1. The request for continuation of water delivery service by Mutual Aid Agreement with the County effective January 10, 2015, for at least 120 days; and
2. The request for purchase of potable water by Mutual Aid Agreement with the County effective January 20, 2015, for at least twelve (12) months.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Governor Executive Order B-26-14
2. Tulare Operational Area SEMS Mission/Task Requests
3. SWRCB Notice of Proposed Emergency Rulemaking
4. State Bi-Weekly Drought Brief: Thursday, March 5, 2015

Executive Department
State of California

EXECUTIVE ORDER B-26-14

WHEREAS on January 17, 2014, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist throughout the State of California due to severe drought conditions; and

WHEREAS on April 25, 2014, I proclaimed a Continued State of Emergency to exist throughout the State of California due to the ongoing drought; and

WHEREAS drought conditions have persisted for the last three years and the duration of this drought is unknown; and

WHEREAS many residents across the state who rely on domestic wells or very small water systems now live in homes that can no longer provide water for drinking or sanitation purposes due to declining groundwater supplies resulting from the drought; and

WHEREAS the shortage of water for drinking and sanitation purposes that many residents now face constitutes a threat to human health and safety; and

WHEREAS additional expedited actions are needed to reduce the harmful impacts from these water shortages and other impacts of the drought; and

WHEREAS the magnitude of the severe drought conditions continues to present threats beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of section 8571 of the California Government Code, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this order would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the drought.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, in particular Government Code sections 8567 and 8571 of the California Government Code, do hereby issue this Executive Order, effective immediately.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Office of Emergency Services shall provide local government assistance as it deems appropriate for the purposes of providing temporary water supplies to households without water for drinking and/or sanitation purposes under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, California Government Code section 8680 et seq. and California Code of Regulations, Title 19, section 2900 et seq.

2. The provisions of the Government Code and Public Contract Code applicable to state contracts and procurement, including but not limited to, advertising and competitive bidding requirements, are hereby waived for the sole purpose of allowing state agencies and departments to purchase water for the protection of health, safety, and the environment.

ATTACHMENT I

3. The provisions of California Penal Code section 396 prohibiting price gouging in times of emergency are hereby reinstated as of the date of this Order. The 30-day time period limitation under subsection (b) is hereby waived. For the purposes of calculating the price differential, the price of goods or services shall be compared to the price in effect as of the date of this Order.

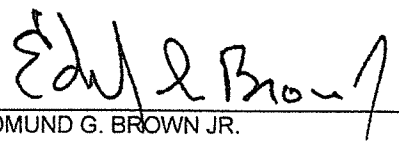
4. The State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Water Resources, the Office of Emergency Services, and the Office of Planning and Research will assist local agencies with the identification of acute drinking water shortages in domestic water supplies, and will work with local agencies in implementing solutions to those water shortages. For any actions the listed state agencies take pursuant to this directive, for any actions taken by a local agency where the Office of Planning and Research concurs that local action is required, and for any necessary permits to carry out those actions, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended. This suspension will expire on December 31, 2014, except that actions started prior to that date shall not be subject to Division 13 for the time required to complete them.

This Executive Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

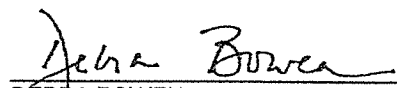
I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given to this Order.

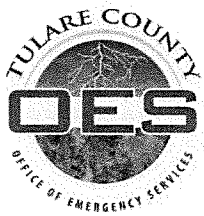
IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 18th day of September 2014.




EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor of California

ATTEST:


DEBRA BOWEN
Secretary of State



Office of Emergency Services

5957 South Mooney Boulevard, Visalia, California 93277
(559) 624-7495 Telephone (559) 737-4692 Facsimile

TULARE OPERATIONAL AREA SEMS MISSION/TASK REQUEST **XTU-2015-LG-001**

To: **City of Porterville**

Date: **1/10/15**

Pursuant to the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAA), the Tulare County Regional Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement ("TC EMMAA"), and in accordance with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), the County of Tulare, serving as the Tulare Operational Area, requests the following Mission / Task to be completed:

TASK(S) TO BE PERFORMED:

1. **As of January 10, 2015:** Renew request XTU-2014-LG-001 to continue utilizing City of Porterville water, personnel, and equipment to fill existing non-potable water tanks placed at individual homes by the Porterville Area Coordinating Council in the unincorporated area east of and immediately adjacent to the City of Porterville, commonly referred to as "East Porterville" or "Doyle Colony," for those homes where a signed waiver of liability has been obtained from the occupant by the City of Porterville.

DURATION & TERMINATION:

The recipient is requested to perform the task(s) above for: **120 days**

County endeavours to replace the existing tanks with larger, potable water tanks, to be filled by commercial water haulers, prior to the end of the 120 day period of this request. Should such transition be incomplete at that time, this request may be renewed. Similarly, this request may be terminated prior to expiration should such transition be completed prior to expiration, and/or if the need has abated. Should the request be terminated prior to expiration, such termination shall occur at a time mutually agreed upon.

Should City of Porterville wish to cease performing the requested task, at least 15 days prior notice is requested.

ATTACHMENT 2



Office of Emergency Services

5957 South Mooney Boulevard, Visalia, California 93277
(559) 624-7495 Telephone (559) 737-4692 Facsimile

XTU-2015-LG-001

COMPENSATION:

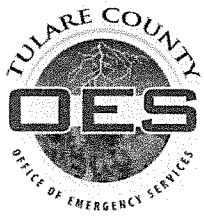
The **County of Tulare** shall reimburse the **City of Porterville** for **100%** of actual costs associated with this request, upon receipt of invoice(s) from the City of Porterville for services performed.

The **County of Tulare** shall claim such costs for disaster recovery from the State of California. This section supercedes Paragraph D of Section VI of the Tulare County Regional Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement, as the contingent reimbursement outlined therein has been found to be in conflict with State and Federal policies and regulations.

Please contact my office should you have any questions in regards to this request.

Sincerely,

Andrew Lockman
Emergency Services Manager
County of Tulare, Office of Emergency Services



**TULARE OPERATIONAL AREA
SEMS MISSION/TASK REQUEST
XTU-2015-LG-002**

To: **City of Porterville**

Date: **1/20/15**

Pursuant to the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAA), the Tulare County Regional Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement ("TC EMMAA"), and in accordance with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), the County of Tulare, serving as the Tulare Operational Area, requests the following Mission / Task to be completed:

TASK(S) TO BE PERFORMED:

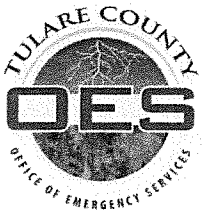
1. Provide potable water from City of Porterville municipal water system, to be purchased by County of Tulare and transported by its agents to residential tanks placed in nearby unincorporated areas as part of the County's Household Tank Program.
2. Establish parameters under which water will be provided, to include:
 - a. Cost per water unit
 - b. Equipment and administrative costs
 - c. Designated filling locations
 - d. Other desired provisions or restrictions

DURATION & TERMINATION:

The recipient is requested to perform the task(s) above for: **12 months**

This request may be renewed prior to expiration should the Household Tank Program continue to operate and require source water. This request may be terminated prior to expiration by County of Tulare should the need abate; such termination shall occur at a time mutually agreed upon.

City of Porterville may terminate performance of the requested tasks for any reason. Should City of Porterville wish to cease performing the requested task, at least 15 days prior written notice is requested.



Office of Emergency Services

5957 South Mooney Boulevard, Visalia, California 93277
(559) 624-7495 Telephone (559) 737-4692 Facsimile

XTU-2015-LG-002

COMPENSATION:

The **County of Tulare** shall reimburse the **City of Porterville** for **100%** of actual costs associated with this request, upon receipt of invoice(s) from the City of Porterville for services performed.

The **County of Tulare** shall claim such costs for disaster recovery from the State of California. This section supercedes Paragraph D of Section VI of the Tulare County Regional Emergency Management Mutual Aid Agreement, as the contingent reimbursement outlined therein has been found to be in conflict with State and Federal policies and regulations.

Please contact my office should you have any questions in regards to this request.

Sincerely,

Andrew Lockman
Emergency Services Manager
County of Tulare, Office of Emergency Services

State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PROPOSED EMERGENCY RULEMAKING
March 6, 2015

Prohibition of Activities and Mandatory Actions during Drought Emergency

Required Notice of Proposed Emergency Action

Government Code section 11346.1, subdivision (a)(2) requires that, at least five working days prior to submission of a proposed emergency regulation to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), the adopting agency must provide a notice of the proposed emergency action to every person who has filed a request for notice of regulatory action with the agency. After the submission of the proposed emergency action to OAL, OAL shall allow interested persons five calendar days to submit comments on the proposed emergency regulations as set forth in Government Code section 11349.6. This document and the accompanying information provide the required notice.

Proposed Emergency Action

On January 17, 2014, Governor Brown declared a drought state of emergency. On April 25, 2014 the Governor signed an Executive Order calling on the State to redouble state drought actions. Among other things, the Executive Order directed the State Water Board to adopt emergency regulations as it deems necessary, pursuant to Water Code section 1058.5, to ensure that Urban Water Suppliers implement drought response plans to limit outdoor irrigation and other wasteful water practices.

Water Code section 1058.5 grants the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) the authority to adopt emergency regulations in certain drought years in order to: "prevent the waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of use, or unreasonable method of diversion, of water, to promote water recycling or water conservation, to require curtailment of diversions when water is not available under the diverter's priority of right, or in furtherance of any of the foregoing, to require reporting of diversion or use or the preparation of monitoring reports."

On July 15, 2014, the State Water Board adopted Resolution 2014-0038, which adopted an emergency regulation for water conservation that added new sections to title 23 of the California Code of Regulations. That emergency regulation became effective on July 28, 2014, upon approval by the Office of Administrative Law. Absent further action, the existing emergency regulation will expire on April 25, 2015. On March 17, 2015, the State Water Board will consider a resolution to readopt the existing emergency regulation, with some updates, for an additional 270 days. The proposed updated emergency regulation consists of four main types of requirements: a prohibition on certain irrigation practices, restrictions on certain commercial activities, an order for all urban water suppliers to implement mandatory restrictions on outdoor irrigation, and an order for water suppliers with 3,000 or more service connections to provide monthly data on water production, compliance actions, and outdoor water conservation measures being implemented.

Proposed Text of Emergency Regulations

See the attached proposed text of the emergency regulation.

Finding of Emergency (Gov. Code, § 11346.1, subd. (b))

The State Water Board finds that an emergency exists due to severe drought conditions and that adoption of the proposed emergency regulation is necessary to address the emergency. California is currently in the fourth year of a significant drought resulting in severe impacts to California's water supplies and its ability to meet all of the demands for water in the State. On January 17, 2014, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. declared a drought state of emergency. On April 25, 2014 the Governor signed an Executive Order (April 2014 Proclamation) stating, among things, "*...that severe drought conditions continue to present urgent challenges: water shortages in communities across the state, greatly increased wildfire activity, diminished water for agricultural production, degraded habitat for many fish and wildlife species, threat of saltwater contamination of large fresh water supplies conveyed through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta, and additional water scarcity if drought conditions continue into 2015.*" Due to these concerns, the April 2014 Proclamation directs the State Water Board to adopt emergency regulations as it deems necessary, pursuant to Water Code section 1058.5, to ensure that urban water suppliers implement drought response plans to limit outdoor irrigation and other wasteful water practices. The April 2014 Proclamation suspended the requirement for review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for certain activities, including adoption of emergency regulations by the Board pursuant to Water Code section 1058.5. On December 22, 2014, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-28-14, which extended the suspension of the CEQA for certain activities contained in the January 2014 and April 2014 Proclamations, including Board adoption of emergency regulations pursuant to Water Code section 1058.5, through May 31, 2016.

On July 15, 2014 the State Water Board approved an emergency regulation for urban water conservation. On July 28, 2014 the emergency regulation became effective upon approval by the Office of Administrative Law. Absent further action, the emergency regulation will expire on April 25, 2015. Continued action is, however, needed to ensure urban water suppliers and all Californians are taking sufficient actions to conserve water and preserve the State's water supply.

The State Water Board is unable to address the situation through non-emergency regulations because the standard rulemaking process cannot timely address the current severe drought emergency that is the focus of these regulations. Furthermore, as noted above, the Governor's April 2014 Proclamation orders the State Water Board to adopt emergency regulations pursuant to Water Code section 1058.5 to address the issues that are the focus of this proposed regulation.

Authority and Reference (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(2))

Water Code sections 1058 and 1058.5 provide authority for the emergency regulation. The proposed updated emergency regulation implements, interprets, or makes specific Water Code sections 102, 104, 105, 350, 10617, and 10632.

Informative Digest (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(3))

Absent the existing emergency regulation, there is no statewide prohibition on specific water uses to promote conservation. There is also no law or regulation requiring urban water suppliers to implement specific stages of their water shortage contingency plans, or report the amount of water they produce to the state. There is also no law or regulation requiring distributors of public water supplies who are not urban water suppliers to adopt water shortage

contingency plans, limit outdoor irrigation by their customers, or implement other mandatory conservation measures. The existing emergency regulation constitutes the first statewide directive to individuals and to urban water suppliers to undertake specific actions to respond to the drought emergency; consequently, the proposed regulation is consistent and compatible with existing regulations on this subject. The proposed regulation neither differs from nor conflicts with an existing comparable federal statute or regulation.

The proposed regulation is intended to safeguard urban water supplies in the event of another dry year. It is both reasonable and prudent to maintain urban water supplies to the maximum extent feasible to provide local agencies with the necessary flexibility to meet the health and safety needs of Californians during the drought emergency. California has been subject to multi-year droughts in the past and there is no guarantee that precipitation during the period the proposed regulation would be in effect will lift the State out of the current drought conditions. Moreover, climate change science indicates that the Southwestern United States are becoming drier, increasing the likelihood of prolonged droughts. In addition, drought conditions have already forced the State Water Board to curtail surface water diversions, and many groundwater basins around the state are already in overdraft conditions that will likely worsen due to groundwater pumping this summer. Many water supply systems face a present or threatened risk of inadequate supply. Should drought conditions persist through 2015 or beyond, more water supply systems will be at risk of depleting supplies, presenting a great risk to the health and safety of the people supplied by those systems. Maintaining urban water supplies through enhanced conservation will reduce the risks to health and safety and reduce negative impacts to the State's economy.

Each of the specific prohibitions on water uses is necessary to promote water conservation to maintain an adequate supply during the drought emergency, which cannot be done if water is being used in an excessive or wasteful manner. These prohibitions affect practices that use excessive amounts of water or where more efficient and less wasteful alternatives are available. These practices are particularly unreasonable during a drought due to the need to conserve limited water supplies to meet health and safety needs. Consequently, the proposed regulation will further protection of the environment.

Additional benefits will be realized should the Board adopt the proposed regulation. These benefits include the following:

- Reduced water bills for customers that reduce water use (some of these savings will generate additional economic activity, such as investments in drought-tolerant landscaping).
- Increased water quality in receiving waters due to lower runoff volumes.
- Increased drought awareness and shared sense of responsibility among urban water users as well as out-of-state guests at California hotels, motels, restaurants and bars.
- More effective tracking of total urban water use.
- Reduced potential for severe economic disruption if 2016 is another dry year.

These benefits will offset some of the fiscal impacts to water suppliers when benefits and costs are viewed from a statewide perspective. Therefore, these benefits provide additional justification for adopting the proposed regulation.

Proposed emergency regulation section 863 sets forth the Board's findings of drought emergency, noting the Governor's adoption of two emergency proclamations pertaining to drought conditions, the persistence of drought conditions, the dry nature of the preceding two years, and the likelihood that drought conditions will continue.

Proposed emergency regulation section 864 prohibits several activities to promote conservation, except where necessary to address an immediate health and safety need or to comply with a term or condition in a permit issued by a state or federal agency. The section prohibits the application of water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes visible runoff, the use of a hose to wash an automobile except where the hose is equipped with a shut-off nozzle, the application of water to hardscapes, the use of potable water in non-recirculating ornamental fountains, and the application of potable water to outdoor landscapes during or within 48 hours after measurable rainfall. This section also prohibits serving water except when requested in restaurants and bars and requires the operators of hotels and motels to offer patrons the option of not having their towels and linens washed daily.

Proposed emergency regulation section 865 directs urban water suppliers to implement the stage of their water shortage contingency plan that imposes mandatory restrictions on the number of days that outdoor irrigation is allowed, requires those urban water suppliers without adequate water shortage contingency plans to adopt them or other measures to promote conservation within thirty days, and report monthly water production information to the Board. This section also requires urban water suppliers that don't already impose a limit on the number of days that outdoor watering is allowed to limit outdoor irrigation of turf and ornamental landscapes to no more than two days per week. This section requires urban water suppliers to notify their customers when suppliers are aware of leaks within the customer's control. The section directs distributors of public water supplies that are not urban water suppliers to either limit outdoor irrigation or implement another mandatory conservation measure or measures to achieve conservation.

Other Matters Prescribed by Statute (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(4))

The proposed emergency regulation would be adopted in response to conditions which exist, or are threatened, in a critically dry year immediately preceded by two or more consecutive below normal, dry, or critically dry years or during a period for which the Governor has issued a proclamation of a state of emergency under the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code) based on drought conditions.

Local Mandate (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(5))

The State Water Board has determined that adoption of proposed sections 863 and 864 does not impose a new mandate on local agencies or school districts. The sections are generally applicable law.

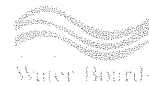
The State Water Board has further determined that adoption of proposed section 865 does not impose a new mandate on local agencies or school districts, because the local agencies affected by the section have the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandate program or increased level of service. (See Gov. Code, § 17556.)

Estimate of Cost or Savings (Gov. Code, § 11346.5, subd. (a)(6))

Increased urban water conservation will result in reduced water use, which in turn will result in reduced water sales and lost revenue for urban water suppliers. This loss in revenue will be a function of the amount of water conserved (and therefore not sold) and the unit price that water would have sold for. In addition to lost revenue from reduced water sales, urban water suppliers will also incur costs associated with water production reporting as required by the proposed emergency regulations. The State Water Board estimates that local agencies that are urban water suppliers could collectively realize as much as \$438,185,664 in lost revenue as a result of implementing the proposed regulations. Additionally, the reporting costs to local government are estimated to be \$961,740. The total costs to local government are therefore estimated to be \$439,147,404, which is the sum of estimated lost revenues and the estimated reporting costs.

Implementation of the proposed emergency regulation will result in additional workload for the State Water Board and possibly for the Department of Water Resources. At present this work is accomplished through redirection of resources within existing agency budgets. However, the State Water Board anticipates the need for additional resources (up to one PY) to conduct activities related to the emergency regulation.

The above summary information is explained in greater detail in the State Water Board's Emergency Regulations Digest, which is attached.



Bi-Weekly Drought Brief Thursday, March 5, 2015

CURRENT CONDITIONS

Recent Precipitation: Last week's storm brought rain mainly to the southern portions of the state, along with some snow in the mountains. Precipitation totals over California in the past week ranged from a few tenths of an inch in the Central Valley and northern part of the state to over 1.5 inches in the Central and Southern Sierras and Southern California.

Below are precipitation totals (in inches) from Monday, February 23, through Monday, March 2, and year-to-date rainfall based on the water year cycle (October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015).

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| • Bakersfield: 0.83" (4.32") | • Pacific House: 0.88" (22.92") |
| • Folsom Dam: 0.00" (23.30") | • Redding: 0.00" (28.80") |
| • Fresno: 0.49" (4.53") | • Riverside: 0.70" (4.59") |
| • Hetch Hetchy: 0.47" (12.63") | • Sacramento: 0.00" (11.60") |
| • Los Angeles: 0.72" (6.51") | • San Diego: 0.93" (6.23") |
| • Modesto: 0.00" (9.16") | • Shasta Dam: 0.00" (45.76") |
| • Oroville: 0.28" (22.92") | • Willits: 0.00" (34.36") |

Precipitation Forecast: High pressure will remain over much of the state into the start of next week, continuing the warming trend with very dry conditions. Low pressure may reach the California coast with precipitation possible by the middle of next week.

Snow Survey: The March [manual snowpack survey](#), based on 180 snow courses, recorded California snowpack at 13% of normal to date, and 11% of the April 1 average. The snowpack as measured on March 2, using [automated sensors](#) shows snowpack at 19% of average to date, and 17% of the April 1 average. The automated sensor results captured the additional snowpack, resulting from the latest storm over the past weekend which may not have been reflected in the manual survey.

Reservoir Levels (% capacity): Since the last report on February 23, Central Valley reservoirs from Shasta and Trinity in the North to Isabella in the South gained just under 500,000 acre-feet in net storage. Shasta led all reservoirs with over 186,000 acre-feet in net storage gain. San Luis Reservoir, an off-stream reservoir for the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, continue to gain storage with a net increase of over 122,000 acre-feet since February 23.

Reservoir Levels as of March 1 remain low, including: Castaic Lake 30% of capacity (35% of year to date average); Don Pedro 43% of capacity (60% of average); Exchequer 8% of capacity (16% of average); Folsom Lake 58% of capacity (104% of average); Lake Oroville 49% of capacity (70% of average); Lake Perris 35% (42% of average); Millerton Lake 38% of capacity (57% of average); New Melones 25% of capacity (41% of average); Pine Flat 16% of capacity (30% of average); San Luis 64% of capacity (75% of average); Lake Shasta 58% of capacity (79% of average); and Trinity Lake 47% of capacity (63% of average). An update of water levels at [other smaller reservoirs](#) is also available.

Fire Activity: CAL FIRE has responded to over 220 wildfires across the state since January 1, including the Stephens Fire in Siskiyou County, which has burned 200 acres and is 95% contained. CAL FIRE continues to monitor the drought situation and prepare for the wildfire season ahead while maintaining staffing that meets the current threat. Should the need arise, CAL FIRE is positioned to augment staffing as required.

Statewide Open Burn Ban Update: Due to recent rain, local outdoor burn bans have been lifted across much of the State. Most areas still require homeowners to obtain a burn permit. For those areas where the ban has been lifted, daily fire and weather conditions will dictate whether burning is permissible that day. The [burn ban](#), issued last July, prohibits certain outdoor burning in the State Responsible Areas (SRA).

Vulnerable Water Systems: The State Water Board's [Drinking Water Program](#) continues to provide technical and funding assistance to several communities facing drinking water shortages, and is monitoring water systems across the state to determine if new support is needed.

As of this week, \$13.9 million has been identified for specific emergency drinking water projects out of \$15 million appropriated in March 2014. According to the Drinking Water Program, five pending projects were removed due to eligibility criteria since the last drought brief, which made available \$1.1 million to redistribute and provide funding assistance to other communities facing drinking water shortages.

KEY ACTION ITEMS FROM THIS WEEK

- **Californians' Water Savings Dips in January, an Exceptionally Dry Month:** On Tuesday, March 3, the State Water Board released water conservation rates for the month of January as reported by large urban retail water agencies under the Emergency Conservation Regulation adopted in July 2014. Californians' water savings declined significantly from 22% in December to 8.8% in January. January followed a very wet December 2014, which reduced the need for outdoor water use and likely contributed to the high conservation rate in December. On Tuesday, March 17, the State Water Board will consider a proposed emergency regulation to both extend the current set of individual prohibitions and supplier requirements, and make additional changes to improve their effectiveness.

State Water Board Issues Revised Order to the State and Federal Projects: On Tuesday, March 3, the State Water Board's Executive Director issued a revised order that modifies the February 3 order approving urgency changes to Delta standards for the State and Federal Water Projects. These changes will address concerns raised at the February 18 workshop. The State Water Board is also responding to additional urgency requests for changes in water rights permits due to the drought. These include changes for the City of Santa Cruz, City of Thousand Oaks, the June Lake Public Utility District and the Walker River Irrigation District.

- **Rains of December and Early February Allow Slight Increase in SWP Deliveries:** On Tuesday, March 3, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced that the storms of mid-December and early February have allowed water officials to make a small increase in water deliveries to most customers of the State Water Project (SWP), [increasing the allocations from 15% to 20%](#). DWR officials cautioned, however, that despite the storms of December and early February, 2015 is shaping up to be a critically dry fourth consecutive year of drought.

- **Reclamation Announces Initial Zero Water Allocation for Many Ag Users North and South of Delta:** On Friday, February 27, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) announced an initial allocation of 3 million acre-feet of water to farmers, wildlife refuges, and urban water users. Most of the water, 2.6 million acre-feet, will go to farmers who are senior water rights holders on the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. USBR announced a zero allocation for Central Valley Project (CVP) agricultural customers north and south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Urban customers will receive sufficient water to meet health and safety needs or 25 percent of contract amounts, whichever is greater.
- **Mokelumne River Salmon Defy Drought with Help from East Bay MUD and CDFW:** On Friday, February 27, the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) announced that more than [12,000 Chinook salmon](#) resisted the impacts of the drought last fall and returned to the Mokelumne River to spawn, which created the river's fifth-largest run in 74 years. According to EBMUD, the success of the fall Chinook run can be attributed to the Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery project, which is a partnership between EBMUD and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- **Emergency Food Aid, Rental and Utility Assistance:** The Department of Social Services (CDSS) has provided to date over 525,200 boxes of food to community food banks in drought-impacted counties. Approximately 461,250 boxes of food have been picked up by 244,414 households. By this Friday, February 27, an additional 11,882 boxes will be delivered to eight counties. Local food banks continue to target food aid to residents most impacted by drought.

The non-profit group La Cooperativa continues to distribute the \$10 million state-funded emergency rental assistance to impacted families and individuals across counties most impacted by the drought. As of Tuesday, February 24, the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reported that a total of \$8,587,538 is committed; and \$7,375,702 in funds has been issued to 4,484 applicants in 21 counties.

The Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) created a \$600,000 program to help families pay their water bills. This program targeted families through 10 agencies that are experiencing "exceptional" drought. As of January, CSD has completed the Drought Water Assistance Program Pilot.

CSD has also implemented a \$400,000 Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker (MSFW) drought assistance program, in coordination with the California Human Development (CHD), Central Valley Opportunity Center (CVOC), and Center for Employment Training (CET) and Proteus, which provides assistance in employment training and placement services to individuals impacted by the drought. As of Friday, February 20, 128 clients are enrolled in employment training programs, 33 clients have obtained employment, and 128 clients are receiving employment support services. CSD has also reported that a total of \$400,000 has been spent to assist participants in completing training employment programs.

- **Water Saving Tips Promoted Across the State:** Californians made strides in 2014 to save water during one of the worst droughts in generations. For 2015, [SaveOurWater.com](#) urges Californians to make a New Year's resolution to save water daily as a permanent lifestyle change. Save Our Water's newly revamped website makes it even easier for Californians to learn how to save water indoors, outdoors, and at work. The website features the theme "Conservation: California's Year-Round Resolution." Visitors can sign up for daily email tips

and grow the public awareness campaign by sharing Save Our Water [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) feeds.

This campaign will expand beyond the general public to feature corporate and business efforts. Save Our Water is also building an easy-to-use digital water calculator, to be unveiled in March that will help people figure out how much water they currently use and how certain practices could cut that volume both indoors and outdoors.

- **Drought Response Funding:** The \$687 million in state drought funding that was appropriated last March through emergency legislation, as well as \$142 million provided in the 2014 Budget Act, continues to advance toward meeting critical needs. To date, \$227 million has been expended, and nearly \$625 million of the emergency funds appropriated in March came from sources dedicated to capital improvements to water systems. Since March, the Department of Water Resources has expedited grant approvals, getting \$21 million immediately allocated to grantees that were pre-approved for certain projects. As planned in March, the next \$200 million of expedited capital funding was awarded in October, and the remaining \$250 million will be granted by fall 2015. The 2014 Budget Act appropriated an additional \$53.8 million to CAL FIRE over its typical budget to enhance firefighter surge capacity and retain seasonal firefighters beyond the typical fire season. In the event drought conditions continue through next year, the proposed 2015-16 Governor's Budget includes an additional \$115 million to continue critical drought response efforts.
- **Governor's Drought Task Force:** The Task Force continues to take actions that conserve water and coordinate state response to the drought.

Local Government

- **San Diego County Reduces Water Use by 28% in January:** Despite continued high temperatures in the San Diego region, the [San Diego County Water Authority](#) reported on Thursday, February 19, that county water use dropped by 28% for January as compared to January 2014 numbers. In December, the district also reduced its water usage by 29% over the previous year's figures for that month.
- **Sacramento Region Uses Less Water despite Drier, Warmer Weather:** On Thursday, February 26, the Regional Water Authority announced that the [Sacramento region](#) used less water in January compared to the previous two years despite the dry and warm weather. According to the data submitted to the State Water Board, the region's water use in January 2015 decreased 18% compared to the same month last year, and dropped 3% compared to January 2013.
- **Local Emergency Proclamations:** A total of 60 local Emergency Proclamations have been received to date from city, county, and tribal governments, as well as special districts:
 - **24 Counties:** Glenn, Inyo, Humboldt, Kern, Kings, Lake, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Modoc, Plumas, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Shasta, Siskiyou, Sonoma, Sutter, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yuba, and El Dorado.

- **13 Cities:** City of Willits (Mendocino County), City of St. Helena (Napa County), City of Calistoga (Napa County), City of American Canyon (Napa County), City of Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara County), City of Montague (Siskiyou County), City of Live Oak (Sutter County), City of San Juan Bautista (San Benito County), City of Lodi (San Joaquin County), City of Portola (Plumas County), City of Ripon (San Joaquin County), City of Rio Dell (Humboldt County), and City of West Sacramento (Yolo County).
- **9 Tribes:** Hoopa Valley Tribe (Humboldt County), Yurok Tribe (Humboldt County), Tule River Indian Tribe (Tulare County), Karuk Tribe (Siskiyou/Humboldt Counties), Sherwood Valley Pomo Indian Tribe (Mendocino County), Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation (Yolo County), Cortina Indian Rancheria (Colusa County), Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria (Sonoma County), and Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians (Madera County).
- **14 Special Districts:** Brooktrails Township (Mendocino County), Lake Don Pedro Community Services District (Stanislaus County), Placer County Water Agency (Placer County), Twain Harte Community Services District (Tuolumne County), Carpinteria Valley Water District (Santa Barbara County), Meiners Oaks Water District (Ventura County), Mariposa Public Utility District (Mariposa County), Goleta Water District (Santa Barbara County), Montecito Water District (Santa Barbara County), Tuolumne Utilities District (Tuolumne County), Mountain House Community Service District (San Joaquin County), Nevada Irrigation District (Nevada County), Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Los Angeles County), and Lake Berryessa Resort Improvement District (Napa County).
- **Water Agency Conservation Efforts:** The Association of California Water Agencies (AWCA) has identified several hundred local water agencies that have implemented water conservation actions. These water agencies are responding to the drought by implementing conservation programs, which include voluntary calls for reduced water usage and mandatory restrictions where water shortages are worst.
- **County Drought Taskforces:** A total of 29 counties have established drought task forces to coordinate local drought response. These counties include: Butte, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Lake, Madera, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Monterey, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Siskiyou, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Tuolumne, and Yolo.
- **Tribal Taskforce:** A total of 3 tribes have established drought task forces to coordinate tribal drought response. These tribes include: Hoopa Valley Tribe (Humboldt County), Yurok Tribe (Humboldt Counties) and Sherwood Valley Tribe (Mendocino County).

DROUGHT RELATED WEBSITES FOR MORE INFORMATION

Drought.CA.Gov: California's Drought Information Clearinghouse

State's Water Conservation Campaign, [Save our Water](#)
Local Government, [Drought Clearinghouse and Toolkit](#)

California Department of Food and Agriculture, [Drought information](#)
California Department of Water Resources, [Current Water Conditions](#)
California Data Exchange Center, [Snow Pack/Water Levels](#)
California State Water Resources Control Board, [Water Rights](#), [Drought Info and Actions](#)
California Natural Resources Agency, [Drought Info and Actions](#)
State Water Resources Control Board, Drinking Water, [SWRCB Drinking Water Program](#)
California State Water Project, [Information](#)

[U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Current Conditions throughout the Region
[U.S. Drought Portal](#), National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)
National Weather Service [Climate Predictor Center](#)
USDA Drought Designations by County [CA County Designations](#)
USDA Disaster and Drought Assistance Information [USDA Programs](#)
U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance Office: www.sba.gov/disaster

Daily Reservoir Storage Summary

ENDING AT MIDNIGHT - 03/11/2015

FOR SELECTED RESERVOIRS IN NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Report generated: 03/12/2015 11:02

Reservoir Name	StadID	Water Storage									
		Capacity (AF)	Elevation (FT)	Storage (AF)	Storage Change	% of Capacity	Average Storage	% of Average	Outflow (CFS)	Inflow (CFS)	Storage - Year Ago This Date
TRINITY RIVER											
TRINITY LAKE	CLE	2,447,650	2,272.34	1,161,651	1,687	47	1,855,613	63	304	1,158	1,263,380
WHISKEYTOWN	WHI	241,100	1,198.60	205,977	-117	85	209,158	98	230	175	213,300
LEWISTON	LEW	14,660	1,901.44	14,240	97	97	13,844	103	311	360	14,569
RUSSIAN RIVER											
SONOMA(WARM SPRINGS)	WRS	381,000	440.33	217,818	-122	57	231,778	94	81	24	178,996
MENDOCINO (COYOTE)	COY	122,400	736.45	66,666	-33	54	74,916	89	222	210	37,844
SACRAMENTO RIVER											
SHASTA	SHA	4,552,000	991.49	2,647,486	3,118	58	3,455,249	77	3,522	5,118	1,999,968
KESWICK	KES	23,772	579.13	19,035	1,038	80	21,777	87	3,092	3,616	20,504
FEATHER RIVER											
OROVILLE	ORO	3,537,577	759.63	1,769,094	2,807	50	2,547,388	69	521	1,919	1,571,159
ANTELOPE	ANT	22,566	5,002.27	22,815	0	101	18,493	123	---	---	19,983
FRENCHMAN	FRD	55,477	5,558.58	20,241	8	36	38,103	53	---	---	27,986
LAKE DAVIS	DAV	83,000	5,764.60	48,101	30	58	61,673	78	---	---	56,099
YUBA RIVER											
BULLARDS BAR	BUL	969,600	1,867.19	598,453	529	62	652,461	92	---	---	550,197
ENGLEBRIGHT	ENG	70,000	520.25	64,624	-23	92	66,413	97	---	588	64,486
AMERICAN RIVER											
FOLSOM	FOL	977,000	425.30	572,475	516	59	573,230	100	998	1,258	384,352
UNION VALLEY	UNV	230,000	4,833.60	174,102	997	76	152,517	114	---	---	158,277
LOON LAKE	LON	76,500	6,383.69	37,198	-512	49	30,011	124	---	---	44,021
ICH HOUSE	ICH	37,120	5,432.71	32,590	47	88	22,041	148	---	---	30,905
NIMBUS	NAT	9,000	121.91	7,303	172	81	8,055	91	806	893	7,733
CACHE CREEK											
INDIAN VALLEY	INV	300,000	1,406.14	69,038	---	23	193,909	36	10	44	21,504
STONY CREEK											
BLACK BUTTE	BLB	143,700	452.44	60,216	140	42	69,350	87	25	101	35,355
CALAVERAS RIVER											
NEW HOGAN	NHG	317,000	628.56	66,237	-18	21	157,539	42	33	28	99,936
MOKELUMNE RIVER											
CAMANACHE	CMN	417,120	184.46	124,210	-354	30	255,175	49	233	11	198,710
PARDEE	PAR	210,000	558.20	177,640	33	85	180,552	98	261	287	164,460
STANISLAUS RIVER											
DONNELL'S	DON	56,893	---	20,587	164	36	14,581	141	88	---	14,694
BEARDSLEY	BRD	77,600	---	29,537	118	38	43,386	68	56	---	24,010
TULLOCH	TUL	68,400	500.33	55,661	-141	81	56,786	98	676	609	56,575
NEW MELONES	NML	2,400,000	878.17	601,825	-367	25	1,482,945	41	553	385	1,070,368
TUOLUMNE RIVER											
DON PEDRO	DNP	2,030,000	711.13	877,256	347	43	1,456,236	60	185	535	1,074,740
HETCH HETCHY	HTH	360,000	---	245,892	---	68	155,169	158	444	---	186,856
CHERRY VALLEY	CHV	273,500	---	189,012	---	69	105,142	180	476	---	214,604
MERCED RIVER											
MC CLURE (EXCHEQUER)	EXC	1,032,000	606.11	87,743	26	9	544,737	16	192	224	225,159
CHOWCHILLA RIVER											
EASTMAN (BUCHANAN)	BUC	150,000	470.04	12,212	6	8	76,671	16	0	4	13,476
FRESNO RIVER											
HENSLEY (HIDDEN)	HID	90,000	453.54	6,701	21	7	37,019	18	0	11	6,995

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER												
MILLERTON (FRIANT)	MIL	520,500	494.80	200,686	421	39	349,905	57	181	399	168,845	
SAN LUIS CREEK												
SAN LUIS	SNL	2,041,000	487.19	1,363,172	3,657	67	1,776,515	77	---	---	770,004	
KINGS RIVER												
PINE FLAT	PNF	1,000,000	746.27	168,093	688	17	542,267	31	120	471	202,653	
KAWEAH RIVER												
KAWEAH (TERMINUS)	TRM	185,600	630.79	46,487	350	25	30,130	154	19	199	22,524	
TULE RIVER												
SUCCESS	SCC	82,300	589.86	7,688	22	9	27,370	28	16	28	8,235	
KERN RIVER												
ISABELLA	ISB	568,000	2,530.57	47,298	-74	8	190,262	25	220	191	61,122	
TRUCKEE RIVER												
STAMPEDE	STP	226,500	5,873.07	50,800	-200	22	138,899	37	---	---	109,400	
INDEPENDENCE LAKE	INP	17,295	6,946.00	15,222	88	88	14,070	108	---	---	15,209	
DONNER LAKE	DNN	9,700	5,930.62	5,200	65	54	4,077	128	---	---	5,443	
SANTA YNEZ RIVER												
CACHUMA LAKE	CCH	190,500	688.19	56,921	-14	30	168,699	34	29	5	77,544	
SOUTH COAST												
PYRAMID	PYM	180,000	2,576.92	168,511	-295	94	163,098	103	---	---	164,801	
CASTAIC	CAS	325,000	1,379.60	95,572	-234	29	285,051	34	---	---	285,029	
LAKE PERRIS	PRR	131,452	1,548.05	48,780	0	37	110,258	44	---	---	72,217	

Total Storage (AF)		12,578,066	Total Average Storage	18,662,518	Total % Group Average	67.40%
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AF - Acre Feet CFS - Cubic Feet per Second

Note: Reservoir Flows are daily averages.

Report name: